PARK DISTRICT OF OAK PARK
Committee of the Whole

Oak Park Conservatory
615 Garfield St., Oak Park
Thursday, November 3, 2005

Minutes

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 pm by President Kindler.
Commissioners Present: President Kindler, Commissioners Bracco, Gartland, Graves and Philion.
Staff Present: Gary Balling, Executive Director; Mike Grandy, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds; Kent Newton, Superintendent of Business Operations; Matt Ellmann, Superintendent of Recreation, and Lisa Lightcap, Business Operations/HR Assistant.
Park District Citizen Committee Present: Kathy Stohr, Deborah L. Borman, Jessica Bullock, Patrick Dahlstrom, Susan Kurtenbach, John Mullins, Mary Kay O'Grady, Mina Riddle, Lisa Valentine, Doug Varn, Rickey Sain Sr.(arrived 7:50 pm).

II. <u>Building and Grounds/Facility Program Committee</u>

A. Carroll Park Site Master Plan – Presentation of Concepts by Altamanu

President Kindler stated that request for proposals were sent out in June to 13 firms for Andersen and Carroll. Altamanu, Inc. was chosen to complete the Carroll Site Master Plan. Altamanu has gathered much public input through focus groups and public meetings to create the concepts they will present tonight. John McManus and Josephine Bellalta of Altamanu introduced themselves and their firm. They both live in Oak Park, their children went to Oak Park schools including Lincoln and they are members of Village Design Commission. Altamanu has been working with Terra Engineering who has also attended all public meeting and focus groups. Mr. McManus mentioned that it is important to consider the relationship between school and center is important, while preserving identity of parks. He then presented six concepts to the Board and Park District Citizen Committee. The public expressed a preference for plans One and Three with most being in favor of plan One. Staff will meet this week to discuss phasing options. Patrick Dahlstrom stated that there may be a perception of safety with parking close to the school and center and there may be concerns if that parking is lost. John Mullins stated that he would like to see the war memorials more prominently displayed. He also suggested European bathrooms that are self cleaning similar to ones in San Francisco. Mary Kay O'Grady said that she is impressed with the plans and she likes the walking paths and that Altamanu was able to consider many possibilities for the sites. Commissioner Bracco wanted to ensure that the plans would be ADA compliant. Executive Director Balling explained the next steps for the project which would include a final recommendation at the December 1 Committee of the Whole Meeting. The Board will be asked to accept plan at the December 15 Board meeting.

B. Update on Andersen Park Site Master Plan

Director Balling explained that three focus groups were held this week at 218 Madison. Community Meetings will be held for the public on November 15 and 29. Notice for these

meetings will be posted on the web and at the center and delivered to area residents. Whittier School students will also be receiving flyers about the meetings.

C. Park Surveys

Superintendent Grandy explained that surveys that are up to date technologically and legally accurate are needed to facilitate the property transfers of the seven Recreation Centers from the Village of Oak Park to the Park District of Oak Park. These surveys are also needed for the Master Planning process, which has already begun at several sites. As per recent meetings with Village of Oak Park staff, accurate up to date "legal" surveys are needed of the various properties that are to be transferred. This same information is a key element in the Master Planning process. The revenue to pay for the surveys has been included in the 2006 capital improvement program funds. The survey firm of V-3 was the recommended choice for the surveys done at Carroll Center and Andersen Center. On the basis of work well done, and the capability to perform a great deal of complicated work in the period of time necessary to meet a very tight time table, it is recommended that the proposal for survey services be accepted from the firm of V-3 of Woodridge, Illinois; for a cost not to exceed $50,900.00. Future site plan amounts reduced because those included survey amounts. The Board gave consensus to include this item on the Consent Agenda at the November 10 Regular Park Board Meeting.

III. Recreation and Facility Program Committee

A. West Suburban Special Recreation Association Board Appointment

Director Balling explained that each year the Park Board must formally appoint a commissioner to serve on the WSSRA Board. The Park Board's consensus was to appoint Commissioner Bracco to WSSRA Board and for Director Balling to serve as the alternate member. The Board will act on this item at the November 10 Regular Park Board Meeting.

B. 2005 Pool Report

Bill Hamilton will present the 2005 Pool Report at the November 10 Regular Park Board Meeting.

IV. Administration and Finance Committee

A. Preliminary Tax Levy

Superintendent Newton discussed the Preliminary Tax Levy and the Budget and Appropriation Ordinance 2005 Estimated Property Tax Levy. State Law requires that the Park District announce an estimate of the annual property tax levy and approve the estimate at a Board Meeting 30 days prior to taking final action. The total levy for 2005 is estimated to be $5,707,700. This is an increase of $3,392,806. Recommended that the Committee announce and approve the estimated 2005 property tax levy in the amount of $5,707,700 at the November Board Meeting. The Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance of the Park District of Oak Park for Fiscal Year beginning January 1, 2006 and ending December 31, 2006. The Truth in Taxation Public Hearing will take place on December 1 at 7:30pm at the Oak Park Conservatory. The Budget and Appropriation Public Hearing will take place on December 15 at 7:30pm at 218 Madison Street.

VI. New Business

Three items of new business were discussed:

- New planter boxes for the LeMoyne Parkway will be discussed at an upcoming public meeting.

- The Oak Park Outdoor Art Organization has requested that a sculpture be placed at Maple Park for a two-year period.
- Director Balling requested that the Park Board attend Village of Oak Park Board Meeting on November 21 to discuss the transfer of properties.

VI. Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Bracco and seconded by Commissioner Gartland to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 p.m. Motion carried in a voice vote of 5:0.

Secretary
Board of Park Commissioners
December 15, 2005
Date

President
Board of Park Commissioners
December 15, 2005
Date